

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 01338 141715Z

42

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1516

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1338

FROM AMBASSADOR

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR PFOR CY

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE RESUMPTION OF FBIS OPERATIONS IN CYPRUS

REF: A) NICOSIA 1266 B) STATE 074084

1. FONMIN CHRISTOPHIDES INFORMED ME APRIL 14 THAT GOC (HE MENTIONED SPECIFICALLY ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS AND COUNCIL OF MINISTERS) APPROVES RESUMPTION OF FBIS OPERATION IN GOC-CONTROLLED TERRITORY IN NICOSIA ON THE LIMITED BASIS DESCRIBED IN OUR PRESENTATION (REF A). GOC, CHRISTOPHIDES SAID, HAD ONLY TWO STIPULATIONS: THAT INSTALLATION, WHETHER IN APARTMENT OR VILLA, BE NEAR PRESENT CHANCERY SO THAT IT COULD BE VIEWED AS AN EXTENSION OR ANNEX OF EMBASSY; THAT ANTENNAS BE AS UNOBTRUSIVE AS POSSIBLE. CHRISTOPHIDES COMMENTED THAT THESE STIPULATIONS DESIGNED KEEP LOW PROFILE AND THEREBY MINIMIZE HAZARDS OF HOSTILE PROPAGANDA BY LEFT WING. IN THIS REGARD, HE NOTED THAT ARCHBISHOP WOULD IN ALL PROBABILITY BE QUIETLY EXPLAINING RATIONALE FOR GOC DECISION TO LYSSARIDES AND OTHER LEFT-WING LEADERS TO SOLICIT THEIR COOPERATION IN AVOIDING TROUBLESOME PUBLICITY AND CRITICISM.

2 COMMENT: GOC DECISION WAS REMARKABLY QUICK AND ITS SPIRIT FRIENDLY. MUCH OF THE CREDIT, I BELIEVE, GOES TO CHRISTOPHIDES WHOSE PRESENTATION TO MAKARIOS AND
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PAGE 02 NICOSI 01338 141715Z

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WAS POSITIVE AND SKILLFUL. OUR

OFFER OF SERVICE TO INSTALL A TELETYPE RECEIVER IN FOREIGN MINISTRY WAS AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTING FACTOR AND WE SHOULD TRY TO IMPLEMENT THIS SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH STATION REOPENING. CHRISTOPHIDES REITERATED HIS REQUEST THAT WHEN RECEIVER FACILITY INSTALLED IN FOREIGN OFFICE WE PROVIDE PRODUCT ON ARAB-ISRAEL PROBLEM AS WELL AS CYPRUS, AT LEAST AT THE OUTSET.

3. PURSUANT MY DISCUSSIONS WITH PETERSON IN WASHINGTON, I HAVE ALSO ASKED UNSYG SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE WECKMANN IF HE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN RECEIVING AN INSTALLATION AND SERVICE ON SAME BASIS AS GOC FOREIGN MINISTRY. HE DEFINITELY IS BUT IS GETTING SOME STATIC FROM HIS LEGAL ADVISER ON PROPRIETY, IN UN TERMS, OF ACCEPTING SUCH SERVICE.
CRAWFORD

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